IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 2 and 4 are cancelled without prejudice. Claims 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10 are currently amended. Claims 9 and 11 are original and claims 12 and 13 are new.

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended)   A method according to claim 1 8, further comprising, prior to transmission, compressing said data in a category if a certain priority has been allocated.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended)   A method according to claim 1 8, wherein said data is transmitted in packets, each packet containing data of different categories, the method further comprising monitoring a packet to be sent and if space remains in such a packet, the space being insufficient to accommodate data allocated a relatively high priority, incorporating lower priority data into the space prior to transmission.

6. (Currently Amended)   A method according to claim 1 8, wherein at least some of said categories are chosen from background game playing data, real time game playing data, receiver maintenance information, and receiver enablement/disablement instructions.

7. (Currently Amended)   A method according to claim 1 8, wherein said data is transmitted in conjunction with a TV broadcast signal.

1   8.   (Currently Amended)   A method of providing services in conjunction with

2   a TV broadcast system, wherein data relating to a number of different categories of services is

3   transmitted in conjunction with a TV broadcast signal to a number of remote receivers, the

4   method comprising:

5   allocating a priority to the data to be transmitted in accordance with its category, the

6   priorities defining a relationship between the different categories of the data;

7   transmitting the data in a manner determined by the allocated priorities;

8   while data is being transmitted, monitoring the data remaining to be transmitted to

9   determine whether the remaining data will be transmitted ~~so as to be received by the remote~~

10   ~~receivers~~ within a satisfactory predetermined time period; and~~,~~

11   if any of the remaining data will not be transmitted within the predetermined time period,

12   changing the priority of the ~~monitored~~ remaining data ~~which has been determined will be~~

13   ~~transmitted so as to be received outside the satisfactory time period~~ so that it will be transmitted

14   ~~to be received~~ within the ~~said satisfactory~~ predetermined time period.

1   9.   (Original)   A method according to claim 8, wherein at least one of said service

2   categories is an interactive service.

1   10.   (Currently Amended)   Apparatus for providing services in conjunction

2   with a TV broadcast system by transmitting data, relating to a number of different categories,

3   from a central location to at least one remote receiver, the apparatus comprising:

4   a processing system for allocating a priority to the data to be transmitted in accordance

5   with its category, the priorities defining a relationship between the different categories of the

6   data, while data is being transmitted, the processing system monitoring the data remaining to be

7 transmitted and ~~to determine~~ determining whether ~~monitored~~ the remaining data will be

8 transmitted within a satisfactory predetermined time period, and if ~~necessary~~ any of the

9 remaining data will not be transmitted within the predetermined time period, changing the

10 priority of ~~any monitored~~ the remaining data ~~which has been determined will be transmitted so as~~

11 ~~to be received outside the satisfactory time period~~ so that it will be transmitted ~~to be received~~

12 within the ~~said satisfactory~~ predetermined time period; and

13   means for transmitting the data in a manner determined by the allocated priorities.

1   11.   (Original)   Apparatus according to claim 10, the apparatus further comprising

2 means for combining the data with a broadcast TV signal for transmission to at least one remote

3 receiver.

1   12.   (New)   A method according claim 8, wherein the data of each category is

2 stored at a different address in a store, the addresses of the data being stored in a pointer store in

3 order of their priority, wherein the data to be transmitted is selected by obtaining the address at

4 the location in the pointer store, corresponding to the highest priority.

1   13.   (New)   A method according to claim 12, wherein changing the priority of

2 data comprises adjusting the position in the pointer store of the address of the data whose priority

3 ~~is changed.~~